Make Church a Part of Your Life WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Let Your Kingdom Come"

By Pastor Rick Rostek, Immanuel Lutheran Church

how to pray, He respond- dom coming to earth. ed, "When you pray, say, tians pretty much from the time Jesus taught it to His disciples.

But what exactly are we praying when we say, "Your kingdom come"? Luther responds in two ways. First, Luther says, God's kingdom came when He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to redeem the world. From the time of Adam and Eve, sin has infected the world. It's the cause of all wars, all crimes, all jealousies, all diseases, and, of course, death. These bad results of sin are evidence of the reign of Satan in the world. When Jesus came. He set about the task of pushing back Satan's reign. Therefore, He healed diseases, drove out demons, and even raised the dead.

When Jesus' disciples These acts of Jesus were the dead victorious over when He sends us His asked Him to teach them evidence of God's king-sin, death, and Satan. Holy Spirit. That hap-

them The Lord's Prayer. in the end, Satan would dom come". It's a familiar prayer that prevail. On the third day,

God's kingdom had pre-pensina couple of ways. On the cross, however, it vailed after all. Now Jesus First, God's Holy Spirit 'Father, hallowed be appeared that God's king- offers the same victory to comes when we hear Your name. Your king-dom had failed. Dying on all who would believe in the word of God. Holy dom come..." (Luke a cross was the one who Him, which brings us to Scripture tells us of 11:2). We know the rest. had been reversing Satan's Luther's second response God's mighty acts of Jesus answered by giving course. It seemed that to the petition, "Your king-salvation, and in partic-

has been used by Chris- however, Jesus rose from God's kingdom comes Christ. Through God's

ular tells us of the love According to Luther, He has for us in Jesus word we come to faith in Jesus.

> The Holy Spirit also comes in baptism. St. Peter says, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). The Holy Spirit operates through baptism to bring saving faith to the baptized. This is a great act of God by which we come into His kingdom.

In the end, the kingdom of God is nothing less than salvation in Jesus Christ. Through Jesus we have forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Through Jesus we have the kingdom of God.



re there simple things that we take for granted in our lives? Do we overlook the fact that the ordinary activities throughout our day can delight and mean the most to us? Consider Psalm 118:24, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Watch for the moments to treasure; give thanks for the simple things. Rejoice with God at your house of worship this week!

Sunday Monday Luke Luke 15.1-10 15.11-32

John 8.1-20

Tuesday Wednesday Thursday John

John 10.1-21 10.22-42 Friday Saturday Psalm

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society

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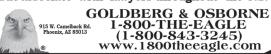


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